REMARKS

Claims 1-6 remain herein. Claim 1 has been amended and claim 7 has been added.

1. Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Koene et al. Asymmetric Triaryldiamines as Thermally Stable Hole Transporting Layers for Organic Light-Emitting Devices. Claim 1 as amended claims an aromatic amine derivative represented by the general formula A-L-B, wherein A and B each represents a diarylamino group of the recited formula, Ar¹ to Ar⁴ each independently representing a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group having 5 to 50 nuclear atoms, and the two diarylamino groups represented by A and B being not the same diarylamino group, wherein at least one of Ar¹ to Ar⁴ comprises a biphenyl group; and L represents a linking group comprising a biphenylene group or a terphenylene group.

Koene discloses a compound at page 2237 ("Chart 2") wherein the linking group is a phenyl group. Claim 1 herein claims a linking group L comprising a biphenylene group or a terphenylene group, which is not disclosed by Koene. Because Koene does not disclose each and every element of claim 1, it is not a proper basis for rejection under § 102. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

2. Claims 1, 2 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Satou U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2003/0082400. As noted above, claim 1 herein claims an aromatic amine derivative represented by the general formula A-L-B, wherein L is a linking group comprising a biphenylene group or a terphenylene group.

Serial No. 10/542,105

Satou discloses an EL device having a luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula.

Satou discloses that Ar3 represents a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group, but does not specifically teach or suggest that Ar3 is a linking group comprising a biphenylene group or a terphenylene group. In fact, each embodiment disclosed in Satou includes a monophenylene linking group. Because Satou does not disclose each and every element of claim 1, it is not a proper basis for rejection under § 102. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, all claims 1-7 are now fully in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge or credit any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendments would be desirable in placing this application in even better condition for issue, she is invited to telephone applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 13, 2006

Roger W. Parkhurst Reg. No. 25,177 C. Donald Stevens Reg. No. 53,638

Attorney Docket No.: 28955.4030

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP 1330 Connecticut Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel: (202) 429-3000 Fax: (202) 429-3902